

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

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NAKIGA HOLDINGS, INC.,

Plaintiff,

-against-

THE REPUBLIC OF ARGENTINA,

Defendant.  
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DOCUMENT  
ELECTRONICALLY FILED  
DOC #:  
DATE FILED: 11/9/07

06 CV 15337 (TPG)

**ORDER AND OPINION**

Plaintiff is the beneficial owner of a certain bond indebtedness issued by defendant The Republic of Argentina. The Republic defaulted on such indebtedness in December 2001 during a profound fiscal crisis. Plaintiff is suing to recover amounts due to it as a result of the default and has moved for summary judgment.

The motion is granted.

**FACTS**

The bond indebtedness at issue is governed by the Fiscal Agency Agreement dated October 19, 1994 (the "1994 FAA"). The 1994 FAA is the same agreement that governed the bond indebtedness on which this court granted summary judgment to the plaintiffs in *Lightwater Corporation Ltd. v. Republic of Argentina*. No. 02 Civ. 3804, 2003 WL 1878420 (S.D.N.Y. Apr. 14, 2003). Section 22 of the 1994 FAA state that the Republic waives sovereign immunity and consents to jurisdiction in any state or federal court in the borough of Manhattan in the City of New York. Section 12 of the FAA provides that the Republic's obligations on the bonds are unconditional and that failure to make any payment of principal or interest for 30 days after the applicable payment date constitutes an event of default. A declaration by the Republic of a

moratorium on the payment of principal or interest on its public external indebtedness is an event of default as well. Section 12 of the 1994 FAA also provides for acceleration of principal if there is a failure to pay interest or a moratorium. If either of these events occurs,

each holder of Securities and such Series may by such notice in writing declare the principal amount of Securities of such Series held by it to be due and payable immediately . . . .

On December 24, 2001 the Republic declared a moratorium on payments of principal and interest on the external debt of the Republic. The court refers to its previous opinions for a description of the circumstances of these defaults. *Lightwater*, 2003 WL 1878420, at \*2; *Applestein v. Republic of Argentina*, No. 02 Civ. 1773, 2003 WL 1990206, at \*1 (S.D.N.Y. Apr. 29, 2003). On December 19, 2006, plaintiff sent notices to Bankers Trust Company, the Fiscal Agent of The Republic of Argentina, declaring the principal amounts of the debt securities held by plaintiffs to be immediately due and payable.

The bond that is the subject of this action is listed hereafter. Also listed is the amount of the beneficial interest owned by the plaintiff.<sup>1</sup>

The following table lists the necessary identifying information regarding the plaintiff's beneficial interests in the bond.

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<sup>1</sup> The court notes the distinction between bonds and beneficial interests. In some previous opinions, the court has simply referred to the plaintiffs as owners of "bonds," when in fact plaintiffs are technically owners of "beneficial interests in bonds." The Republic actually issues "a bond" to a depository. The depository, in some form, issues "participations" to brokers, who sell "beneficial interests" to purchasers. These beneficial interests are identified by reference to the underlying bond (CUSIP or ISIN number or both; date of issuance and maturity; rate of interest) and the principal amount of the beneficial interest. This distinction is discussed more fully in *Million Air Corp. v. Republic of Argentina*, No. 04 Civ. 1048, 2005 WL 256126 (S.D.N.Y. Oct. 17, 2005).

<u>Plaintiff Bond Holder or Beneficial Owner:</u>	Nakiga Holdings, Inc.
<u>Face Value:</u>	€445,000
<u>CUSIPNo.. ISINN0..BB No.:</u>	ISIN No. XS0086333472
<u>Date Of Issuance:</u>	April 21, 1998
<u>Date Of Maturity:</u>	April 21, 2008.
<u>Interest Rate/Payable:</u>	8.125%
<u>Date Of Purchase:</u>	On or about January 2, 2001
<u>Acceleration:</u>	Notice sent December 19, 2006.
<u>Contract Documents:</u> (FAA; FRB; Indenture; Offering Prospectus; Certificates, etc.)	FAA dated October 19, 1994.
<u>Evidence of Ownership Proffered:</u> (Account Statements; Letters; Notarized Statements, etc.)	Account statement from Credit Suisse dated March 31, 2007.

### DISCUSSION

This Court has already granted summary judgment in other cases to plaintiffs seeking to collect on the Republic's defaulted bonds issued under the 1994 FAA. This has occurred in *Lightwater, supra*, *Mazzini v. Republic of Argentina*, No. 03 Civ. 8120, 2005 WL 743090 (S.D.N.Y. Mar. 31, 2005) and other cases. Only certain specific issues need to be discussed in connection with the present motion.

**A. Standing and Proof of Ownership**

In the two opinions in *Fontana v. Republic of Argentina*, 415 F. 3d 238 (2d Cir. 2005), and *Applestein v. Province of Buenos Aires*, 415 F.3d 242 (2d Cir. 2005), the Second Circuit has held that an owner of a beneficial interest, such as plaintiffs here, must receive authorization from the registered holder of the bond before it may sue, but that such authorization may be granted subsequent to the filing of a lawsuit. Alternatively, the Republic may waive the authorization requirement.

The Republic has agreed to waive objections based on lack of authorization where the court makes a finding of current ownership. *See* Transcript, March 28, 2006, *Cilli v. Republic of Argentina* (04 Civ. 6594).

Here, the plaintiff has adequately demonstrated through its account statements that it owns its beneficial interest as of March 31, 2007. There is no evidence of any change of ownership thereafter.

**CONCLUSION**

The motion for summary judgment is granted. Judgment will be entered for the principal amount of the bond issued under the FAA plus accrued interest.

The parties shall consult with one another concerning the form of the judgment and the amounts of interest that should be awarded in the judgment. If the parties are able to reach agreement, they shall jointly submit an agreed proposed judgment to the Court to be entered on a date agreed to by the parties upon consultation with Chambers. If the parties are unable to reach an agreement on those subjects, the plaintiff shall submit a proposed judgment to the court, and the Republic shall submit any objections to that plaintiff's proposed judgment within five business days thereafter. The court will then resolve any remaining disagreements.

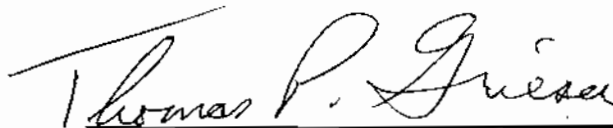
Proposed Orders submitted to the Court should include the following language: It is further ORDERED that, until further notice from the Court, plaintiff must refrain from selling or otherwise transferring its beneficial interest in the bond involved in this action without advising the Court in advance and obtaining permission of the Court.

SO ORDERED.

Dated: New York, New York

~~October~~, 2007

Nov. 9, 2007

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Thomas P. Griesa", written over a horizontal line.

THOMAS P. GRIESA  
U.S.D.J.